Statement

Unit Value realisation of FCV Tobacco to each exporting Country

Country	*FCV Tobacco FOB Unit Value (Rs./Kg.)*
U.K.	70.26
Belgium	64.46
Germany	71.86
Irish Rep.	74.80
Netherlands	80.89
Greece	105.63
Switzerland	98.80
Finland	95.20
Czechoslovakia	74.90
U.S.S.R.	39.58
Poland	39.53
Israel	68.09
P.D.R.Y.	59.75
Bangladesh	68.53
Nepal	43.50
Singapore	84.77
Malaysia	47.65
Indonesia	78.82
Vietnam	47.76
Philippines	82.93
Libya	66.48
Tanzania	33.44
Australia	41.47
Newzealand	95.87
U.S.A.	40.99

Working Auction Platforms for FCV Tabacco

1849. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many auction platforms for F.C.V. tobacco are working in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) since when they are opened, this year;

(c) how many buyers are there on an average on each platform;

(d) what is the average price thereof;

(e) what are the quantity of arrivals;

(f) how many growers offered their produce to aid;

(g) what are the corresponding figures of last year; and

(h) what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: (a) There are 23 auction platforms.

(b) Auction platforms were opened in a phased manner, 3 on 14.2.92, 17 on 20.2.92 and the remaining 3 on 28.2.92.

(c) On an average there are 30 buyers on each platform.

(d) As at the end of February, 1992, average price realised by the growers is Rs. 28.69 per kg.

(e) 420 bales weighing approximately 56,700 Kgs. at each platform everyday as on 4.3.1992.

(f) 10,700 growers have so far offered their tobacco for sale.

(g) and (h) Last year only, 19 platforms were used in Andhra Pradesh, 16 from 19.2.91, and 3 from 25.2.91. The number of buyers per platform was 38. The average price realised was Rs. 27.34 per kg. On an average 520 bales were offered for sale on each platform per day by about 7910 growers.

Finalisation of Export Order of F.C.V. Tobacco

1850. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hon'ble Minister of State of his Ministry during his visit to Guntur on 26th December, 1991 assured that the export orders of F.C.V. tobacco will be finalised; much earlier to the opening of auction platforms;

(b) if so, how far it is fulfilled;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps have been taken to fulfil the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The Minister had informed the

growers that the Government would take up with the Russian Federation the question of continuing the import of tobacco from India. Necessary protocol has been signed in this regard.

Observation of the Auction Platforms by Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce

1851. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hon'ble Minister of State of his Ministry during his visit to Guntur and other tobacco growing areas on 26th December, 1991 agreed to inspect the auction platforms;

(b) if so, whether he has not inspected the auction platforms so far;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when he propose to undertake the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) During his visit to Guntur in December, 1991, Commerce Minister had discussions with tobacco growers, traders, exporters and officials of Tobacco Board on all aspects of the tobacco industry including tobacco auctions. Since the auctions were scheduled to commence in February, 1992, there was no occassion for the Minister to inspect the auction platforms in December, 1991.

Working Barns in Tobacco Growing Areas of Andhra Pradesh

1852. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of barns that are engaged in the tobacco growing areas of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) what steps have been taken to regularise the unauthorised tobacco barns?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Total number of barns licensed for operation during 1991-92 season in Andhra Pradesh is 38526.

(b) No steps have been taken to regularise the unauthorised tobacco barns.

Pressure of I.M.F. and Word Bank for the Withdrawal of Exim Scrips

1853. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to scrap the Exim Scrips Scheme;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof;

(c) whether any evaluation study has been undertaken before scraping this scheme;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The newly introduced system of partial convertibility is an enlargement of the Exim Scrip system so far as exporters are concerned. Hence, Exim Scrips are not considered necessary except in the special case of Gem and Jewellery products.

India's Import Quota Regime

1854. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has studies the World Bank's publication titled "The open economy-Tools for policy makers in developing countries" which emphasises that India's import policy has been harmful to the country and increasing restrictiveness of quota protection may in fact lead to a determination of the trade balance accompanied by accelerated inflation and slower growth; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.